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MIDWOOD ARGUS

Vol. XLIII, No. 2 — MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, N. Y. — March 30, 1962

NINE SENIORS TO RECEIVE MAYOR'S CITATIONS AT JUNE GRADUATION

By NATHAN DISTLER

This year, as in the past, the Mayor of the City of New York will award citations to the top one percent of each senior graduating class in the city. Nine Midwood students will receive this high honor at a special ceremony at City Hall.

In order to receive a Mayor's Citation, a student has to be above average in the following ways: he must be excellent academically, of good character, and have a fine citizenship record. The following Midwood students will receive the citations: Donna Amariglio, Robert Epstein, Paul Fenichel, Jonathan Goldman, Judith Goodman, Barbara Kroll, Glenn May, Laura Post and Wendy Weyne.

The Special College Incentive Program is for seniors eligible for college, but who, because of financial inability or other reasons, cannot attend college. The program is designed to make available a limited number of special financial awards to encourage seniors. The high school principal may nominate one candidate on the basis of the student's academic record and achievements.

On the subject of scholarships, the College Scholarship Program is considering its applications also. Twenty-two colleges in the New York City area provide one-half of the tuition necessary to deserving students, while the city provides the other half. In order to be considered for one of these scholarships, a student must meet the following requirements: he must be outstanding academically, he must be a bonafide applicant to one of the colleges, and he must show evidence of his financial need.

Another program of honorary scholarships is for those who are chosen to receive some type of award by the Mayor's Committee, but because the tuition needs of the eligible students are met by other scholarship awards or because they decided to attend non-cooperating or out-of-town colleges, they will not compete for the previously mentioned scholarships. These students are given honorary certificates.

Next Concert April 13

By PAULA STURMAN

Many of Midwood's dramatic arts groups will assemble in the auditorium on April 13 for the second "Sing-Dance-Act-Play" concert performance this year.

Participating in this talent show will be the band and the orchestra, a specially trained group from Mixed Chorus, and the girls in Mrs. Adele Feldman's Modern Dance Club.

The program will include several pieces played by the band: "Finian's Rainbow," "Caribbean Fantasy" by John Morrisey; Rimsky-Korsakoff's "Procession of the Nobles," and several instrumental ensembles. The newly formed "madrigal group" from Mixed Chorus is planning to sing a few selections.

The girls' Modern Dance Club will give a varied performance consisting of ballet and modern dancing, as well as interpretive and folk dancing. The orchestra will participate by playing some musical selections which have not yet been chosen.

The March 23 "Sing-Dance-Act-Play" concert, the first of the series, was very successful. The orchestra played Tchaikowsky's "Swan Lake" and the "Brandergberg Concerto Number Three." Boys' Chorus sang songs from several past and present popular Broadway musicals. The band, accompanied by Sandra Bartel as soloist, and a vocal group from Mixed Chorus, played "Milk and Honey," the theme of that Broadway show. Robert Mirer, Roger Spitz, and Jack Weber were solo trumpeteers for the selection of "Buglers' Holiday."

Mr. B. Chancy with the orchestra

Concluding the "Sing-Dance-Act-Play" concert of March 23, the student cast of "The Diary Of Anne Frank," given last term, presented a repeat performance. Judy Licht, appearing as Anne, and Burt Gottschalk, as Mr. Frank, had the leading roles. A parent who saw the concert was "glad to see that the students are given opportunities to display their talents."

Midkids Greet Phoenix Theatre Performances

By SETH SCHWEITZER

Scenes from the March 7 performance

Under the authorization of Mr. Solomon Schlakman, chairman of Midwood's English department, the Phoenix theatre presented several one-act plays and excerpts from longer productions to the three assemblies at M.H.S. on March 7.

The first two performances dealt with various types of comedy. "Caesar and Cleopatra" by George Bernard Shaw, illustrated a "comedy of words." That is, the script rather than the acting, was the humorous element. A portrait of a sphinx and a few large imitation stones were the only scenery.

The next selection, entitled "The Importance of Being Ernest," by Oscar Wilde, exemplified "comedy in delivery." This appeared to be a humorous love story set in the Victorian Era.

"A comedy of farce," such as "The Brute," by Anton Chekhov, is the third basic type of comedy. In this one-act play, an adamant creditor falls in love with the widow of the man to whom he lent a large sum of money.

A week later (on March 14) the theme was "plays written in verse." The topic was introduced with the recital of an assortment of poems, limericks, and nursery rhymes by the members of the cast. Included were: "I Have a Hippopotamus," "The Bustle-Maker" and "Jack Be Nimble, Jack Be Quick."

Following were the plays in verse: "Prologue of Henry V," by William Shakespeare; "Cyrano de Bergerac," by Edmond Rostand, and "Under Milkwood," by Dylon Thomas, a Welsh poet.

The Phoenix theatre, under the direction of Ted Graeber, appears before approximately two hundred high school audiences throughout the country yearly, for the expressed purpose of "creating a bigger theatre audience for New York."

SENIORS PICK CELEBS

By RUTH FESSEL

In accordance with traditional senior activities, the class of June 1962 has chosen its Senior Celebrities and has set the date of "Senior Day" for April 11.

The senior class elected twenty-four celebrities. The title "Mr. Midwood," is now held by Jimmy Elkins. The seniors also chose him handsomest boy, but he rejected the latter title since he could only hold one position. The seniors elected Ann Urso Miss Midwood and girl politician. She chose the former title. David Fleiss and Wendy Weyne, respectively, hold the titles of boy and girl most likely to succeed. Jonathan Goldman was elected boy scholar and Laura Post, girl scholar. The boy and girl who did most for Midwood are Bruce Prenner and Lois Snitkoff. Boy politician is Peter Albert. The boy and girl writers, respectively, are John Sharefkin and Judith Goodman. Frank Ettenberg and Susan Klausner are class artists. Boy and girl musician are Jay Solkow and Harriet Levin. Best athletes are Tom Markey and Alice Horowitz. Elected the prettiest senior girl was Geraldine Fusco. Class comedian is Paul Keenan, and class comedienne, Alyce Katcher. The seniors elected Burt Gottschalk best actor and Judy Licht, best actress. The two most popular seniors are Stewart Yaker and Ellen Edelman.

All senior celebrities will receive special awards in the A.M. assembly on Senior Day. In addition, the seniors will present a comical, nostalgic review of their years at Midwood. Later in the day a "hat contest" is planned, with a prize being given for the senior hat decorated most imaginatively. As in the past, certain designated seniors will be permitted to substitute for their teachers during the day.

MIDWOOD'S COLLEGE PHYSICS CLASS NOW PROBES ELECTRONS

By MARLENE ROBINSON

"Midwood High School's advanced college physics class is presently engaged in an experiment to determine the ratio of charge to the mass of an electron," stated Mr. Simon Weissman, chairman of the physical science department and instructor of the new class.

The young scientists are employing both the Helmholtz Coil and Millikan Oil drop methods to achieve their goals. Another probe is being made to determine the charge of a single electron.

The aforementioned class is the only one of its type in Midwood. Its seventeen members, which includes one girl, meet eight periods per week. These students, who are all seniors, were part of Midwood's six-major program, which enabled them to complete five years of science in four. All were carefully screened before admittance to the course.

According to the participants in the program, the course means "a great deal of hard work and difficult exams." Several students work on their projects outside of class. The students realize that "the emphasis is on thinking rather than on factual knowledge."

On May 14th, the class' students will take college placement exams to determine whether they can enter the second year of physics in college.

City Roundup.... COUNCIL ESTABLISHES COMMITTEES

The recently elected City Council president, Bob Willig, has established two new committees in an effort to facilitate business matters and to conserve time.

The committees, which meet weekly in the cafeteria and are opened to all students, are the "New Business" and "Old Business" committees. Their duties consist of proposing and discussing new and old ideas.

The points brought out at these meetings are summarized on an agenda sheet and distributed to all A.M. homerooms. The homeroom president is supposed to read the agenda to his class and discuss any controversial issues.

In elections held March 8, the sophomore class elected Emily Gaffin their president and Rhea Davids, vice-president.

The senior class' elections named Lois Snitkoff president; Kenneth Marshall, the vice-president, Fern Goldberg, the treasurer; and Lisa Goldstein, class secretary.

In order to determine the purposes of a student government and to compare them to Midwood's present system, Mayor Daniel Feld and the Board of Estimate have established a "Special Committee."

The five-member committee makes use of personal interviews with both faculty and students, past files on activities and their own opinions. They plan to review all phases of the City of Midwood, including extra-curricular activities.

Barbara Kroll and John Liapakis are this years candidates for the Bohack Scholarship. They will compete with other seniors nominated by high schools in the five boroughs, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester counties for two one thousand dollar Bohack Scholarship Awards and eight five hundred dollar awards. Barbara and John will be competing against other Brooklyn area nominees for the two Brooklyn Bohack Scholarships. (Each high school was allowed to nominate only one boy and one girl.) Bohack gives each applicant a five dollar gift certificate for groceries.

The manufacturers of Howard Clothes presented their annual "Good Grooming Award" in Midwood to seniors Lewis Augusta and Mark Levine.

Lewis, first place winner received a complete wardrobe and Mark, the runner-up received a ten dollar gift certificate. Realizing the values that good grooming promotes, Howard Clothes is proud to join schools in recognizing a boy who most effectively achieves the standards of dress, neatness, and citizenship established by the school.

MIDTERM SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 16		TUESDAY, APRIL 17		WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18	
I 8:15-9:30	English 8 8M—1 Hr. 5 5M—1 Hr.	I 8:15-9:45	Social Studies 4, 4H 4M—(1 hr) 3	I 8:15-9:45	Accounting 4, 3, 2, 1 Math 8, 6 E, F
II 9:50-11:20	Social Studies 5, 2	II 10:05-11:20	English 7, 4, 3 4M—(1 hr)	II 10:05-11:35	Business Arith. 2, 1 French 6 5 (1½ hrs) Merchandising 4, 1 Spanish 6
III 11:40-1:10	Biology 6, 4, 3 Lab. Techniques B, H Law 2, 1 Math D (2 Hrs.) Modern Science 2, 1 (1 hr) Math 6T	III 11:40-1:10	Math 7, 7T 4, 3 2, 1 (1 hr) Merchandising 3, 2 (1 hr) Accounting 1 H	III 12:00-1:30	Civil Service 1 (1 hr) Clerical Practice 2, 1 (1 hr) French 4 3 (1½ hr) Secretarial Pr. 2, 1 Social Studies 8 (2 hrs) Spanish 4 3 (1½ hrs) Stenography 4
IV 1:30-3:00	GENERAL CONFERENCE IN AUDITORIUM	IV 1:30-2:30	French 2, 1 Spanish 2 Stenography 3, 2, 1	IV 1:30-3:00	MARKING OF PAPERS

ARE YOU REALLY SOPHISTICATED ?

—or are you methodically screening out a large part of reality from your life?

Sophistication is not playing *roulette* with men named Raoul on the French Riviera.

Sophistication is not even experience. Some people can travel around the earth and come home no more sophisticated than if they had spent the time looking for worms in an Iowa corn field.

True sophisticates know that today's demand for experts tends to turn people into "specialized splinters" – narrow people who know a great deal about one subject, and almost nothing about anything else.

They know that true sophistication is a way of looking at the entire world – the wars, revolutions and other major upheavals. But also at other meaningful things—the face of a mother who has just seen her son sworn in as a judge . . . the revealing grin of triumph when a politician undercuts an opponent . . . a human, detailed report of a courtroom battle.

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Arista, Archon Name 103

The one hundred three new members of two of Midwood's honor societies, Arista and Archon will receive pins and certificates during the A.M. Assembly Program, April 4. Mayor Daniel Feld will speak at the program. The traditional candle lighting ceremony, in which a new Archon member will light the candle of service, a new member of Arista will light the candle of scholarship, and an inductee of both societies will light the candle of character, will be the main feature of the program.

The new members of Arista are: Nancy Auster, Jane Bender, Kenneth Blatt, Judith Blumenreich, Amy Braverman, Melvin Brender, Sherrie Bronstein, Beverly Casper, Judith Cohen, Ilene Cottler, Eugene Dressler, Daniel Feld, Madelaine Fischer, Marian Fernebok, Lawrence Freedland, Jack Gerson, Barbara Glasser, Richard Goldberg, Gale Gordon, Barbara Gottlieb.

Diane Haas, Ellen Harris, Ruth Hochman, Marsha Horowitz, Michael Import, Jessie Jurow, Judith Kline, Tracy Kole, Melvin Konner, David Laitin, Jane Landers, Harriet Levin, Rhea Levine, Marc Linder, Peggy Livingston, Carla Meisel, Laury Olshein, Lynne Osman, Joel Plavin, Wendy Pober.

Kathy Pomerance, Harriet Posner, Diana Post, Ronald Rapaport, Leslie Rubin, Michael Saloman, David Schaps, Janet Schechner, Rhea Segal, Cindi Sherman, Cathy Sklar, Laura Smith, Merrill Sohn, Paul Spieler, Jonathan Squire, Robert Starr, Gail Strassberg, Andrew Strowe, David Unger, Ellen Varet.

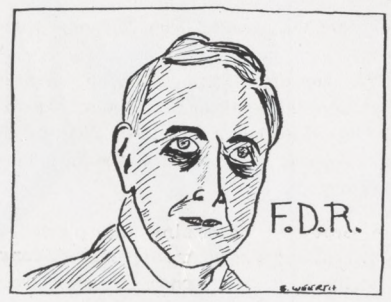
Norman Wechsler, Jay Weiner, Wendy Weiner, Diane Weinstein, Robert Willig, Barbara Zasloff, Susan Zucker.

The following students have been accepted into Archon: Rene Chalfin, Judith Cohen, Lew Cohen, Ilene Cottler, Sally Drucker, Karen Fishman, Toby Friedlander, Genevieve Galloway, Gale Gordon, Barbara Gottlieb, Iris Jenner, Madeline Katz, Ronnee Katz, Gail Kaufman, Diane Knobloch, Norman Kramer, Harriet Levin, Jeanne Lieberman, Alan Minsky.

Susan Needleman, Fran Orlow, Leonard Raifman, Freyda Reiss, Karen Rosenfeld, Terry Schneider, Benjamin Schwartz, Cynthia Sherman, Nancy Van Raalte, Ellen Varet, Barbara Weerth, Nanci Weinberg, Richard Goldberg, Karen Handlesman.

FDR COMMISSION DELAYED; TO NARROW CHOICES TO 12

"The F.D.R. Commission is presently in the throes of narrowing down to twelve a list of more than sixty nominees. We will therefore be unable to present the list to the **Argus** at press time," stated Laura Smith, who with Rhea Segal heads the aforementioned commission Wednesday, March 21.



Franklin D. Roosevelt

The reason for the delay, as stated by Laura, was "to enable the commission members to do thorough research on each candidate, thus assuring the student body of a choice among several worthy candidates. And such research," she added, " takes a great of time."

She urged this reporter to remind the students to attend the meetings, (see below) which will choose the final candidates. "We hope for a great deal of student participation in this convention; it is necessary if we are to achieve our goals."

This year the F.D.R. Commission has altered the system of nominating candidates for the award in an effort to stimulate more student interest in the contest. Instead of having the list of nominees narrowed down to three by the members of the F.D.R. Commission, as was the procedure in the past, the commission will now cut the list down to twelve. A special committee, consisting of two delegates from each social studies class and any other interested persons, will eliminate nine of these nominees in April. The student body will elect to the recipient of the award from among the remaining three persons.

Last year, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King became the sixteenth winner of the award, which was instituted in 1946, one year after the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

MARK LEVINE

U.N. ACTIONS CHALLENGED

By RUTH ALGER

Mr. Marvin Liebman, representative from the American Committee for Aid to Katanga Freedom Fighters, addressed the Social Studies Forum on March 2.

Mr. Liebman briefly reviewed the Congo situation, since that country received her independence in June, 1960. Belgium gave the central government a constitution, but the outlying provinces never ratified the document. He pointed out that "when the central government began to lean towards Communism under Lumumba, the Katangese people felt justified in declaring their independence. They set up immediately a capitalistic government. Leopoldville was furious and requested U.N. troops."

Mr. Liebman stated, "the U.N. was not called into the dispute to make war, but to keep the peace until both parties concerned could meet over the conference table." He referred extensively to the brutal manner in which Ethiopian troops treated the Katangese." He feels that the U.N. sided with the Congolese government and imposed its "bloody solution." He stressed, "Russia favored the Congolese, because she wished to obtain the mineral wealth of Katanga. The Communist Party recently incorporated Katangese cobalt into the new five year plan for Czechoslovakia." However these minerals are also vital for western defense.

"Interference by the United Nations on the basis of an unratified document was the same as Hitler's Invasion of Poland! Even hospitals were bombed."

The American Committee for Aid to Katanga definitely feels that the province is acting entirely within its rights as the people are racially closer to Tanganyika and Rhodesia. Elizabethville is also 1,000 miles from Leopoldville. "They have a right to separate themselves from the chaos in order to keep up their high level of production."

Thus Mr. Liebman said that he feels that the U.N. has absolutely no jurisdiction over the matter. When questioned, he said, "I would rather have no U.N. at all than have this organization that is now meeting in New York City. The U.N. is collapsing because two diametrically opposed ways of life can never hope to agree."

PEACE ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCED; OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

By CORA GOLDBAUM

The National Lawrence S. Mayers Memorial has announced that it will conduct a Peace Essay Contest for the twelfth consecutive year.

This contest is open only to high school seniors. Students may write an essay on either one of the following topics: First; "The United States is 180,000,000 people, each contributing to the nation's welfare. Write an essay describing what each one of us as an American can do to strengthen respect for our nation abroad so the United States can play a more decisive role in promoting world peace," The second reads as follows: "Write an essay suggesting means whereby the United Nations can be strengthened to meet the challenge of our age and gain the complete respect of all nations so it will mature into a more effective organization."

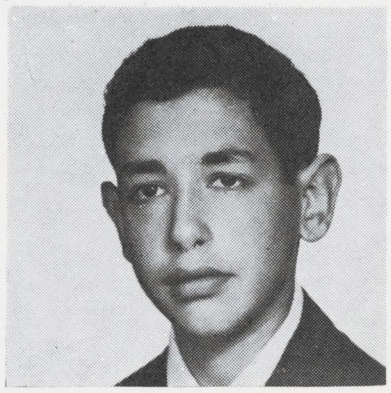
The first prize winner will receive a one-thousand dollar United States Savings Bond or a college scholarship. A one-hundred dollar United States Savings Bond will be given to each of the nine second prize winners. The fifteen third prize winners will each be given honorable mentions and will receive Lawrence S. Mayers Peace Medallions and a book on world peace.

All essays should be mailed to: Lawrence S. Mayers Essay Contest, 717 Fifth Avenue, New York 22, New York, and postmarked no later than May 1, 1962. Essays must be typewritten, double-spaced, and a frontispiece should include the name and home address of the student and the address of the school.

Chessmen Checkmate Division I

By PHYLLIS MASLIN

Midwood High School's Chess Team has become the district champ in Brooklyn's First Division. The team successfully defeated Erasmus Hall, Boys' and Eastern District High Schools and played a draw with Wingate High School.



Peter Sterling, Team Captain

For Midwood to become the victor, it had to gain the most points on an overall season basis. The team will now compete against Brooklyn Technical High School for the Borough Championship. Last year, Midwood placed third in the city.

The members of the Chess Team, (Peter Sterling, Robert Gwirtzman, Robert Lichteman, Martin Nitzberg, Gerald Sosler and Stanley Wettan), are also members of Midwood's Chess Club which under the direction of Mr. Chagrin, meets each Friday, periods eight, nine and ten, in room 431. These boys receive little recognition for their services; they play "for the enjoyment of the game" and for their "own personal satisfaction." Besides being the club's best players, these boys are also able to boast about their high scholastic average.

M.H.S. JOURNALISTS VISIT T.A. GARAGE

Mr. Hyman Feldman, General Superintendent of the Surface Transit Authority, played host to fifty representatives of high school newspapers, March 13.

The delegates toured the T.A. garage at Alabama Avenue in Brooklyn, the largest depot in the world. Previous to the tour, the guests dined and attended a movie showing the work of the many employed in the Surface Transit System. The object of the meeting, according to the authorities, was to let the public know that the T.A. vehemently condemns vandalism on its vehicles, and this objective was achieved when the guide told the newspapermen that one-quarter of a million dollars a year is devoted to the purpose of repairing damage done by adults and teen-age passengers. In closing, Mr. Feldman expressed the hope that vandalism will come to an end, and stated that it is possible only if everyone cooperates.

This month **Argus** has returned to its usual eight pages instead of the six pages to which it was limited last issue. It was decided, through a compromise, that for the remainder of this semester there would be one other eight page and one six page issue.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

When our "Cinderella" basketball squad entered the P.S.A.L. playoffs, the enthusiasm generated by the Midwood student body in Madison Square Garden was extremely gratifying. The various cries and cheers by the Midkids brought back pleasant memories of the old Brooklyn Dodgers' rabid and fanatic rooters. In many instances, however, certain spectators went overboard in their spirit, and sometimes reached the brink of rowdyism and vulgarity. Many will claim that this unsportsman-like conduct resulted from the fact that the cagers hadn't played in the Garden in all their twenty years. Nevertheless, we were guests of the Garden management, and should have behaved in a respectable manner. Although most other high schools acted in a similarly, crude way, this is definitely no reason for our students to conform in this poor practice. In the future, at sporting events or anywhere else, let us show others that Midwood High School can be representative of spirit among teenagers, while maintaining proper decorum.

We would like to extend our sincere congratulations to Coach Dave Fried and his cagers on their great performances throughout the season. Much credit should be given to Mr. Fried for developing this inexperienced squad into a well-organized unit. Even in defeat, the Glenroaders appeared to be a well-coached team. As a result, the misconception that Midwood is a school of brains and no brawn, may have finally been dispelled.

Sometime, in April, the annual F.D.R. Brotherhood Award will be presented to one of the twelve nominated candidates. In the past few years, the students have carefully chosen the person, whom they deemed most worthy of advancing mutual understanding among the peoples of the world. Such deserving people as Martin Luther King, the late Dag Hammarskjold and Dr. Thomas Dooley received the award in the three past elections. Let us continue to take our vote seriously, and not to treat the award as a popularity contest.

DON GOLDMAN

MIDWOOD ARGUS

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Brooklyn, New York

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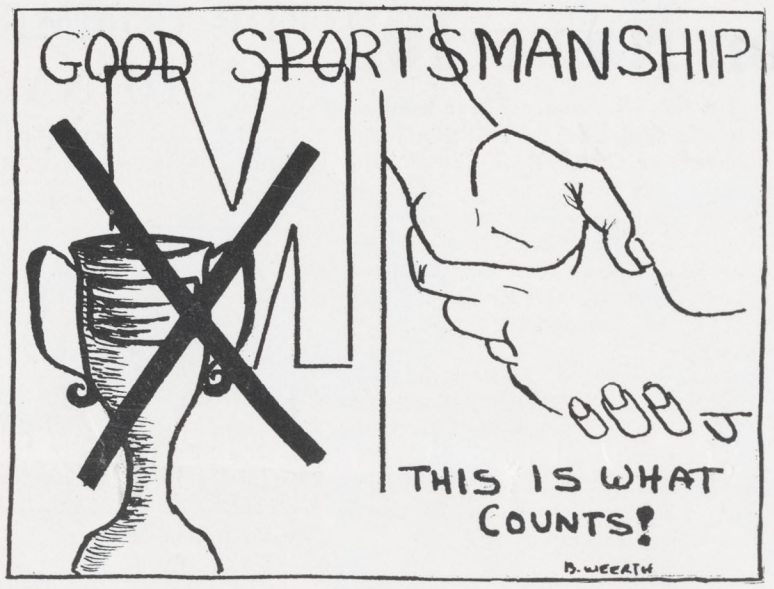


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor of Midwood Argus:

Midwood High School has long been famed for its excellent choruses and concerts. Each year, Chamber Music concerts and Spring concerts are scheduled.

This year, on March 23, and April 13, Mr. Chancy will present two music concerts. The theme for the March 23rd concert is "A Night on Broadway." I feel that more students will come to this concert, because there is a central idea, and the songs and music will be familiar. I'm sure that all who attend these concerts will enjoy an exciting and sparkling evening.

Thanks again, Mr. Chancy.

Burt Gottschalk 251A

Editor's Note: We would like to add our commendation too. The orchestra led by Mr. Chancey performed at the Convention of the Brooklyn College School of General Studies March 21.

At a recent assembly, the students heard **Seventy Six Trombones** by Wilson, **Bugler's Holiday,** by Anderson, and **Oklahoma** by Rogers. The Music Department is a very active part of Midwood.

MAYOR'S DESK

Among the challenges continually facing the City of Midwood is the important question of providing the student body with information about our student government and its activities. Realizing that in some cases the student body failed to see frequently even the best of mayors after their respective elections, I have been visiting as many homerooms as time will permit.

One of the most common questions asked of me in homerooms is: "What can the City of Midwood do for me?" My answer to this question is twofold. First, I describe the work of the twenty various commissions, and their direct effect on the welfare of the students. Secondly, I assert that no student has the right to avoid working in the City of Midwood and then expect it to work wonders for him.

The greatest benefits to be derived from our wonderful organization, I believe, can be found by actually working for it. The experience of working with other students on projects of your own choice, the sense of responsibility, and the learning of parliamentary procedures are all examples of the varied benefits to be gained by working in one of Midwood's finest activities—the City of Midwood.

The most widely used means of communication with the student body is the Public Address System. As is well known by the majority of students, the usefulness of the P.A. system is hampered by the noise present in many homerooms. It is ironic, in fact, that the very people who should be reaping benefits from listening to the announcements—the students—are making it increasingly difficult to continue with this means of communication.

Thus, I want to direct this special appeal to everyone concerned. Please make the homeroom period an orderly, quiet place to accomplish the day's business and to listen to the various announcements. Taking this request into serious consideration will be helping the student body itself.

DANIEL FELD

Principal's Message

Dear Boys and Girls:

I take this opportunity to pay my respects to the boys on our basketball team and to their outstanding coach, Mr. Dave Fried.

When the season started, the team was literally struck down by the loss of three key players. There seemed to be little hope for even a fair season, let alone a good one. Nevertheless, the boys on the team and their coach picked themselves up off the floor and gave this school as fine a display of courage and perseverance as I have ever seen in high school athletics. They won for themselves and for the school a country-wide respect and admiration which transcends even the winning of a championship. And Mr. Fried has quite deservedly been called "the coach of the year."

This is a lesson we can all take to heart. We can learn from this story that it is possible, if only we try hard enough, to overcome adversity, disappointment, and temporary set-back; and this is true not only in athletics, but also in subject classes. As a matter of fact, this is a lesson which can be applied all through your life.

To me, and I hope to all of you, the memory of this accomplishment will always be a source of pride and an incentive to greater effort.

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Bernstein,
Principal

Middie and Woodie

BARBARA WEERTH

Midwoodites Enjoy Drama; Plays by Two Groups Hits

Midwood students have on three recent occasions been happily exposed to the liveliest of the arts. Two collections of short "takes" and one full-length play have entertained us within two weeks.

"Brevity is the soul of wit." This Shakesperian statement was one that the Phoenix Theatre group proved, to our delight, March 7.

Excerpts from Shaw's "Cleopatra" and Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" were presented by the Phoenix players, as well as a one-act Russian play, "The Brute." The first of these dealt with Julius Caesar's meeting with Cleopatra as a girl, the second with a young man's attempt to meet the standards set by his sweetheart's aunt, and the third concerned a man who comes to collect a debt from a widow and ends by proposing. The program was part of a tour that this off-Broadway group is making to junior and senior high schools in the Brooklyn area.

March 14, these actors were back again with a program of poetry. They were seemingly out to prove that there are both music and laughter in poetry. They recited such poems as Shakespeare's CXXX Sonnet (a frank tribute to a woman) the Pepsodent jingle, parts of "Cyrano de Bergerac" by Rostand, and "Under Milkwood" by Dylan Thomas.

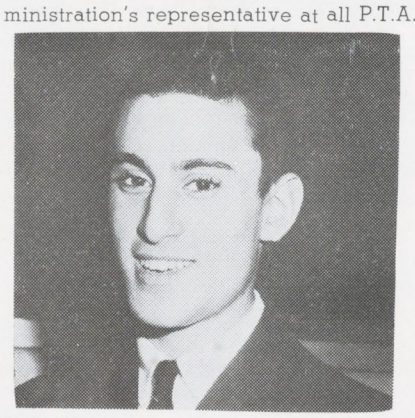
Also on March 14, Mrs. Sierles' dramatic class traveled to Hofstra College, Hempstead, L. I., to see a production of "The Tempest," which also brought out the humor in poetry. Acting, lighting, costumes, music, and scenery did justice to the beauty of Prospeio's speeches and the clowning of Caliban and his two drunken confederates.

Madeline Gabrielson and Catherine Krautter

Spotlight

Our student government this term is on the threshold of the dreams that youth is made of. Its mayor, Daniel Feld, is a member of the junior class, and, like all youth, he has resolved not to fail.

As mayor, Danny is the student spokesman, the coordinator of all activities and commissions, the presiding officer of the Board of Estimate, the administration's representative at all P.T.A.



Daniel Feld

meetings, and, in general, the mountain on which the praise is piled and from which the mistakes are chipped.

Vying for a job as complex as this one, how did Dan, only a sixth termer now, win the election? The fact that he is a junior did not hinder his campaign, but instead, he feels that it made it more "exciting" and made him "stand out."

In office but a short while, Danny has sent two messages, one to the students, the other to the teachers. It was he who wrote to socialist leader Norman Thomas, and secured his visit to Midwood, a definite success. He has made several personal visits to homerooms to discuss student government. The College Commission has been re-established under his guidance. Commissioners have been chosen and Danny has installed many sophomores as deputy commissioners. Contrary to popular opinion, their only "connection" was "bubbling enthusiasm" for the idea of student government.

Dan takes a special interest in music, playing the oboe and the clarinet, and performing in the Midwood High School Band and Orchestra, and in the All-City High School Orchestra. He attends rehearsals while most of us eat, and in fact, he spoke to this reporter over a tuna fish sandwich during the "M" homeroom! He loves politics and worked for Mayor Wagner at main headquarters during the last election. Our Mr. Mayor also enjoys playing basketball and football. Danny has maintained an excellent average. Concerning post-Midwood plans, the arrow of possibility points to Cornell University, but his goals beyond that are as yet undetermined.

Daniel feels that the structure of the City of Midwood is inimitable and bearing this in mind, Dan feels that "the student government is of the most value to the person who is in it."

CLARE HOLLANDER

Why Not Read A 'Mockingbird'?

For once I have found a story that was supposed to be observed through the eyes of a child, and that is really successful. The child is an amusing little girl, Jean Louise Finch (alias Scout), the book is "To Kill a Mockingbird," and the success is as apparent as proved by the latest copy of the Best Sellers List. Its clearcut message rings out loud and true as Harper Lee relates the tale of Jem and Scout Finch, during the days of the Depression in Maycomb, Alabama.

The most important character in this novel is Atticus, father and mother to the Finch children, and lawyer in the town of Maycomb. He plays an impressive role throughout the story as the molder of young lives.

Up to this point, "To Kill a Mockingbird" was nothing but another "cute" book about childhood misconducts. Then Atticus is brought into view, and from here on, the pace is heightened.

He is an essential part of a trial which concerns a poor white girl, Mayella Ewell, and Tom Robinson, a Negro boy, who is accused of seducing her.

Maycomb is in an uproar because Atticus has agreed to counsel Tom Robinson. It did not matter that Atticus was lawyer and was obliged to find the truth; it mattered that a white person had turned against his "own kind" to take the part of a Negro. Being brought up in an impartial atmosphere, Atticus' children didn't share this view. To them it was a matter of "may the best man win," but the people of Maycomb had decided before the trial who the best man was.

Do you know why you shouldn't kill a mockingbird? Because it is a sin to kill something that has done no harm.

LANI BROWN

Main Building Squelches Sophs

Dear Freshman:

I address this letter to you, because I am now a sophomore and I think that you will be interested in what I have to say about the main building.

Upon entering the imposing edifice as sophomores, you will be astonished to discover that you are regarded as freshmen. Life at the main building is not as glamorous as you freshies picture it to be. In the annex, there was an atmosphere of friendliness and informality. Such is not the case at the main building; here everything is business. The seniors are eagerly awaiting graduation, and word of college acceptance. The juniors are taking college entrance exams, and the sophomores are busy preparing for their first regents. The air in Midwood is tense with work and planning.

I'm not trying to say that Midwood proper is all work and no play, because the annual Sings and Spring Concerts and the many other activities easily contradict this. Nor do I wish to say that the students at the main building are unfriendly, for this is certainly not so. I am merely trying to point out the difference in the attitudes of the students in the two buildings.

And so freshman, enjoy the easy life at Kensington while you can, for the next year you will experience quite a change.

PATRICIA PRICE

MIDWOOD'S FASHIONS EXAMINED

Many parents and teachers have commented that all Midwood girls look alike, but the students themselves have a guide by which they differentiate among the seniors, juniors, and sophomores.

Approaching a group of girls in stitch-down pleated skirts, classic sweaters, knee socks, loafers and small handbags, most of us immediately visualize the typical Midwood junior. However, this style has been so widely accepted that it is being imitated by sophs and seniors alike.

The sophomores are usually characterized by more audacious dress. The louder the outfit, the more becoming, they seem to think, it is. This is the year to let out all your inhibitions by wearing bold stripes and clashing color combinations. Since most sophs have five periods of gym a week, they use gym as an excuse to wear white sweat socks and sneakers. But recently, seeing the tremendous turnout for Cheerleader practice, it seems the most sought after article of clothing is the white bulky sweater of the Midwood High School Cheerleaders.

The seniors, on the other hand, are the most conservatively dressed individuals of Midwood High School. Most of the girls in this category are either trying to impress everyone with their maturity or are merely establishing a "basic" wardrobe for college. They wear dark shades of navy, brown, gray, and black.

But, for some reason, no one seems to think they are from Brooklyn College. Close examination of this problem reveals that their would-be collegiate appearance is put off balance by the senior hats they have craved for throughout their high school career, and which have become part of their everyday dress.

BOBBI BADER

GIRLS' GYM GRIM

Have you ever wondered what goes on in a gym class at Midwood? Undoubtedly, you know only too well!

I can't help sympathizing with the Midwoodite who has gym the first period of her day. After waking up 6:30 in the morning (which seems like the middle of night) in order to dress, fix her hair perfectly, and apply make-up neatly, it seems utterly absurd to undo this entire process as soon as she gets to school. She tries time after time to get excused from changing into her gymsuit. However, after a while she realizes there is no sense in trying any longer, and she becomes a robot. In other words, the process of preparing for health ed. becomes as automatic as the movement of a robot or the working of an I.B.M. machine.

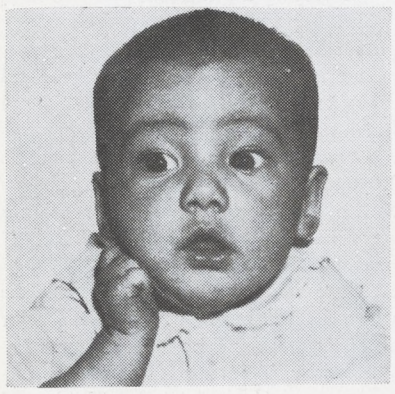
About 10 minutes later, she descends into the gymnasium where several hundred students are found clad in beautiful, highly styled uniforms with their names covering their backs. After the attendance (which takes another ten minutes) is completed, the athletic activities finally begin. The activity which keeps our student body fit and trim(?) "Bend those knees, keep those backs straight, twist your body to the right, now to the left. Now touch your toes 1, 2, 3, 4. That's it. Now once again. Isn't this fun?" So what if you get a few aches and pains which prevent you from going skiing this weekend?

Suddenly, there is chaos. Why is everyone rushing toward that little door at the rear of the gymnasium? Don't get excited! There is no fire or spectacular event occurring; it is merely the end of the gym period and the tumult will soon be over. But there is still tomorrow . . .

BEVERLY CASPER

Meet Your Creeper

In recent years, many problems have been discovered in the educational world. One is teacher-student relationships. It has been found that a younger teacher has better contact with his students. Midwood's newest teacher is attempting to alleviate this problem. She contends that she can well appreciate the difficulties of her students. A graduate of M.I.T. (Mites' and Infants' Teachers) College, she holds a B.A. (Baby Award), an M.A. (Minor's Advanced) degree, and is now working toward a Ph.D. (Professor of Hygenic



Diapers).

She excels at languages, being proficient in Gujarati, Rajasthani, Tagalog, Veps, and Lingua Vagitus, the last being better known as Baby Talk.

In her spare time, she enjoys listening to readings of the classics. Her favorites include "Peter Rabbit," "The Little Red Hen," and the works of Mother Goose. In addition, she is a member of the Huck Hound Fan Club, and is treasurer of the "Let's bring back Sanskrit as a popular language fund." In Midwood, she approves of the Language Laboratory, her only complaint being that languages are restricted. She feels that the more common languages taught in high schools, like French, Spanish, Latin, and Hebrew, are arid and have little practical application. She contends, furthermore, that languages such as Juang and Nicobarese, presently relatively unknown, will some day dominate world communication. With this in mind, she continues to study the lesser known languages of the world.

In short, Midmud's newest teacher seems to have the problems of the world clearly in mind, as she prepares for a long future as a high school teacher. Her only problem at the moment is what to do when she grows too old to communicate effectively with adolescents, say at the advanced age of three. The key to her personality lies in her own words. "Xyzaclhgmok td mbirasmeajtsblh, wvetr mnotzgb, dgruvead evytg olv rewmvkd."

APRIL FOOL!

IRIS JENNER

Meet Your Teacher

"My profession, my main hobby, and my greatest outside interest is math," professes Mr. Arthur Meyer, who has been teaching that subject to students

Mr. Meyer

in Midwood High School for the last five years.

A native of New York City, Mr. Meyer has never wandered far from home. He attended Boys High School in Brooklyn, and then went on to continue his education at City College and Columbia University. He possessed from boyhood a great interest in the field of mathematics. He studied engineering in college, and when he graduated, he became a chemical engineer.

"But then I thought I'd like to be a math teacher, and I am glad I decided to teach."

When he is outside of school, Mr. Meyer likes to read. He is also an avid sports fan (perhaps his spirit has been helping his old high school's basketball team), although he is only a spectator. When he is not diligently marking his student's papers, he attends some of the Midwood High School football and basketball games. He spends a great deal of time with his two children, a fifteen-year-old daughter who attends Tilden High School, and a ten-year-old son. Mr. Meyer is thinking of utilizing a National Science Foundation Scholarship, which would enable him to study at "a college somewhere in New York City" during the coming summer.

Mr. Meyer had previously taught in a junior high school in the Bronx. He was, therefore, asked to make a comparison between the two types of schools. However, he would only say, "Midwood is a fine school and its students are fortunate in attending it." We students know very well that we are also fortunate to have Mr. Meyer teaching math at Midwood.

RITA KIRSCH

Midmoods . . .

FELICIA SOBEL

A girl, perhaps very much like yourself, was musing about the complete abandon she felt during this particular airplane flight. Would this new sensation of liberation remain with her beyond the duration of her one-hour return flight? She was unsure of an answer, but preferred not to think about it. And she did not think about it.

In spite of the lamentable outcome of this momentous trip, it had constituted the final lap of our friend's race for college entrance. Its purpose had been to create a favorable impression at her final and most vital interview. The termination of such a distasteful experience was, therefore, the greatest relief she could recall.

The girl's new exuberance was not the result of enlightenment concerning the hidden simplicity of college acceptance. (That's a phrase we wish we could use affirmatively and with conviction). On the contrary, this girl had been discouraged during the interminable twenty minutes in her interviewer's office. She had been forced, ironically because of her own desires, to find herself seated in that hard chair, whose large arms did not offer any comfort whatsoever.

Well-meaning friends had advised our youngster to imagine her oppressor in an embarrassing situation, and they assured her that this would put her at ease. Unfortunately, her imagination got the best of her, and the consequences had seemed disastrous. Envisioning Mr. X standing on his head and spitting wooden nickels, somehow had not accomplished its purpose. The girl's composure had been sacrificed, and she had been forced to assume that Mr. X had proclaimed her unfit to study in the exceptionally intellectual atmosphere within the hallowed halls of his institution.

The girl in the airplane smiled serenely. She was almost ecstatic in spite of the imminence of her probable rejection. She hadn't concluded that she would be equally happy at any college, nor had she attempted to reconcile herself in the knowledge that she was not alone in her dilemma. In fact, she wasn't thinking about colleges at all any longer.

Prosepina Keeps Annual Date

When Mother Nature awakes from her long, dark sleep, she is like the beautiful Prosepina, who was separated from mother, Ceres, for six months of the year. Prosepina's annual return to the earth from Hades was marked by the blooming of sweet flowers, babbling of creeks, singing of birds, and the new foliage of the trees and bushes. During the months of her separation from her daughter Prosepina, the mournful Ceres, Greek goddess of agriculture, left the earth bare of fruits and vegetables, just as winter robs the earth of its abundance. However, upon reunion with her daughter, Ceres was so overwhelmed with joy, that she covered the earth with a veil of loveliness beyond compare. Thus, she brought happiness and beauty to every minute she spent with Prosepina knowing that they would once again be separated in the fall.

Spring, like Prosepina, brings love and contentment to all the world, which has been shadowed by winter. The winter-clad earth is like a prisoner of ancient days, who upon seeing the rising of the golden sun for the first time in years, weeps for joy. The warmth of the sun's rays are the light of hope for the coming spring, and these rays fill every heart with love, tender kindness, and gaiety.

When Spring makes her glorious debut, the air is filled with the fragrance of lillies and violets that cover the hillsides like a soft blue blanket. After the first spring rain, the trees in the valleys, mountains, woods and cities will be kissed by the sun's rays, and their once-naked limbs will be reclad in sweet- smelling buds. The grass will once again become green with each drop of morning dew, while the bees and butterflies will be seen among the blossoming flowers.

Awake quickly Mother Nature! Your canvas, pallette and brushes are ready for your artistic retouching of earth. Anxiously, the earth is awaiting the rebirth of Spring. Awake, Mother Nature, awake!

ROSEMARY GRASSI

OUR TOWN: SCRIBES SEE MUSEUM HALLS

The current interest being shown in science and the corresponding emphasis on said subject in our school curriculum, make the Museum of Natural History an appropriate place to visit.

Contained here, are exhibits showing and explaining man, other species, man's relation to these other species, and numerous artifacts depicting primitive civilizations.

Arriving at the museum's Hall of Man, one notices the varied illustrative exhibits. They indicate the different systems of man, his structural evolutionary process, and explain the cell. The highlight of this exhibit is a glass human statue, showing all the parts of man's body. As the parts light up, they are explained by the voice mechanism attached to the statue.

All the classes of vertebraes are on exhibit here. They are explained in just as great detail as man is, and are compared with the latter in terms of size, structure, and abilities. Perhaps, of all the aforementioned displays, this reporter found the display of the dinosaurs most engrossing. The enormous size of some of these animals was overwhelming and makes one glad indeed not to have lived when these creatures did.

Several primitive human cultures are represented. They include those of the Indians at Peru, Central America, Mexico, Alaska, and the Pacific. Through displays of archeological artifacts, the cultures are explained.

Enhancing some of the exhibits are diverse environmental effects. This is particularly noted at the Peruvian Indian exhibit. The lights are dimmed and noises of birds and other animals create the atmosphere of a jungle. The exhibition, which is entertaining as well as informative, tells a story of primitive man's adaptation to a hostile environment.

The presentation of all of the displays in the museum is commendable. They are properly classified and the accompanying explanations are in lucid speech, to insure understanding by all.

Surely, for an informative and pleasant afternoon, you should make the Museum of Natural History a must on your visit list.

RENE ROSE

Argus Tops Log

The Argus Basketball Team defeated the Lincoln Log by a score of 39—38. Mark Cohen broke the ice for Midwood with a twenty-five foot field goal. Mark Levine paced the Argii with driving lay-ups and was the outstanding player of the game during all four quarters. Don Goldman's deft shooting was a determining factor in the resulting Argus victory.

The Argus Cagers were coached by Paul Mayblum, a member of the varsity basketball team. High scorers for the Argii were Don Goldman and Mark Levine with 20 and 17 points respectively. Paul Cohen and Gus Reichbach exhibited exceptional defensive play, pulling down key rebounds throughout the game.

A rematch between Midwood and Lincoln will be held at Lincoln High School in the near future.

TENNIS TEAM HOPEFUL

By SANDY HURWITZ

The Midwood Tennis Team is certainly placing its shots during this year's pre-season warm-ups. Piloted by veteran David Laitin, the team exhibits illuminating highlights that will surely win many a match in the near future.

Returning this season is Randy Rose, a junior, who clinched second place in the P.S.A.L. Indoor Championships. Ex-Mayor, Peter Albert, will be back, as well as Captain David Laitin, who finished third last fall in the Metropolitan Hardcourt Tournament.

Unlike other schools which allow their tennis team "the winter off," Midwood's team has been practicing steadily for a good portion of the year. An automatic ball server has helped the team develop well-placed returns. Under the tutelage of Coach Eisenstadt, up and coming players will certainly be seen this season. Among them is Sophomore John Mogulescu who won the all-city novice tourney last fall. Peter Lederman and Martin Leibowitz will also add to the strength and drive of the team.

Last season proved to be a very successful one for the Middies. Defeating Lincoln, Fort Hamilton, Boys, Tilden, Tech, and Whitney consecutively, the Netmen were headed for a number one spot in the division. However, at the Wingate match, through a technicality, Midwood's title hopes were terminated.

As for the on-coming season which begins April 9th, Captain Laitin says, "I feel that this year, because of the team's high potential, morale, and diligent practice, we will settle for nothing less than the city title."

CAGER RESULTS

Midwood 52—New Utrecht 40
Midwood 75—Fort Hamilton 55
Midwood 59—Sheepshead 55
Midwood 58—Tech 46
Midwood 45—Boys High 46
Midwood 44—Erasmus—57
Midwood 66—Jefferson 57
Midwood 62—Lafayette 65
Midwood 50—Wingate 57
Midwood 69—Tilden 51
Midwood 82—Tech 57
Midwood 65—Madison 54
Midwood 62—Erasmus 50
Midwood 63—Madison 51
Midwood 52—Jefferson 46
Midwood 50—Wingate 59
Midwood 54—Tilden 45
Midwood 53—Boys High 52
Midwood 60—Erasmus 59
Midwood 73—Sheepshead 42
Midwood 47—Morris 50

COACH OF THE YEAR

"I'd rather have been city champs than coach of the year," said Midwood's Basketball Coach Dave Fried when asked how he felt about being the overwhelming choice of New York Sports Writers for that distinguished post.

Mr. Fried, a Midwood alumnus, was a star in his own right, here at Midwood and later at N.Y.U. He played football and baseball at both schools and at Midwood was the captain of the baseball team. However, Mr. Fried excelled as a gymnast, being named an All-American in his senior year at N.Y.U., and was the Novice and Jr. Champ of the United States, excelling in the Horizontal and Parallel bar competition. As a result of his many accomplishments he was named to the U.S. 1948 Olympic Team but broke his ankle during a football game and was unable to attend.

Upon arriving back at Midwood, he became Assistant football coach to Mr. Eisenberg. He also coached the gym and handball team. He then made the switch from football to basketball where he has been ever since. In the past two years, the basketball team has compiled a 29—9 record. When asked as to what he attributed this success he answered, "The teams are getting better because the kids are playing more for the team and less for themselves." However, this reporter is sure that the knowledge and dedication of Coach Fried is as important a factor as any.

Dave Fried

Gus Reichbach

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GLENROADERS FINISH MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON

TOP SHEEPSHEAD, ERASMUS LOSE TO MORRIS AT GARDEN

By GUS REICHBACH

The Midwood five led by Captain Tom Markey's 24 points was able to eke out a 53-52 victory over the mighty Kangaroos of Boys High. As a result a playoff game with Erasmus was scheduled at Madison Square Garden.

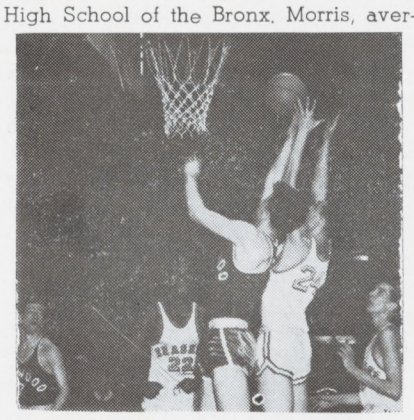
The Middies, led by their all city center, Tom Markey, jumped off to an early lead. The 1960 city champs from Erasmus Hall were not idle though, and closed the gap to two points at the end of the half.

Erasmus, led by its phenomenal sharpshooter Charlie "Sparky" Donovan, who tallied 31 points, came to life in the third quarter. Behind Sparky, Erasmus was able to build up a nine point lead.

Gene Dressler, Midwood's defensive ace, tightened up on Donovan, stealing the ball and frustrating Erasmus scoring attempts, as the Middies gradually cut the lead. Jim Higgins converted a three point play which cut Erasmus' lead to two points with 1:40 left to play. Jim Elkins placed Midwood within one point of victory by hitting one of two foul shots. Neither side was then able to score. With six seconds remaining, Paul Mayblum hit a field goal from the foul line giving Midwood a 60—59 advantage. Donovan then dribbled down the length of the court and took a shot from the corner, which missed as the buzzer sounded. However, a foul was called and Sparky was given a one-and-one situation with no time remaining. Donovan, aimed briefly and then let go. With dead silence reigning, the ball teetered on the rim and finally fell to the ground missing its mark, and clinching the game for Midwood.

The next contest saw Midwood hopelessly outclass a weak Sheepshead squad, trouncing them 73—42. Jim Higgins hit 21 while Captain Markey scored 20.

In the next game, Midwood was eliminated from the tournament by dropping a hotly contested game to Morris High School of the Bronx. Morris, averages a front wall of 6'-5½", while their starting five lists no man under 6'-0". The big difference was 6'-8½" Nevil Shed whose rebounding gave Morris the game.



Basketball Team in action

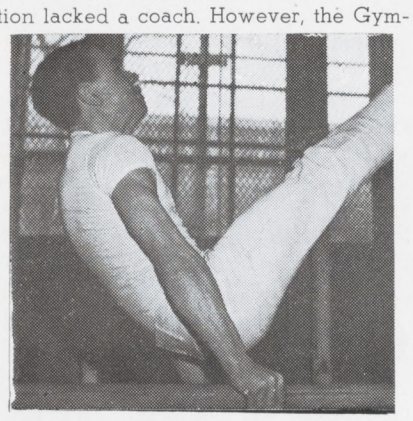
Midwood tried to repeat the heroics of the Erasmus game, but made its move too late and fell three points short of its goal, losing 50—47. Captain Markey again led all scorers with 19 points.

GYM TEAM PLACES THIRD SCORES ELEVEN POINTS

By MARTY HUSS

The Midwood Gym Team, for the second year in a row, placed in the number three slot, of the All City Meet.

More than three-quarters of last year's third place team graduated last June, and the team was left with what was termed as "no material," and in addition lacked a coach. However, the Gymnasts practiced hard all year, and it paid off in the form of a third place position in New York City.



Gymnast on "P" bars

Aiding Midwood in the All City Meet were Finazzo and Mangano. Under the leadership of Captain John Cook, the Midmen scored a total of 11 points.

On the side horse, Finazzo, a top entry for Midwood, performed well enough to end up fourth, giving two points to the team.

Mangano scored seventh with teammate Nick Basso trailing in eighth place.

The speed competion on the ropes showed Captain John Cook at his best climbing in 5 seconds. He was defeated only by Kaufman from Tech who made the climb in 4.7. Midwood's Bruce Randall cinched fourth place with 5.4 sec. adding 2 more points to the team's total. Cook's position augmented the score by 4 points. A seventh point in this event was added by Mike Sorkin's time of 5.7 which enabled him to place fifth in this event.

The contest on the mats and on the high bar did not see Midwood entries. "There just wasn't anyone with enough experience to enter," said Cook. Mungo from Erasmus, was first man at the mats and Tech's Bellavia took first on the high bar.

Clinton's John Polizzano gave the full five points to his team by placing first on the parallels. Cook performed skillfully and came in fourth, gaining two points for Midwood.

Captain John Cook stated that about half the team will graduate this June. He proudly told us that in September, high school gym teams will be officially recognized in the P.S.A.L. for the first time. This will add popularity to gymnastics and he hopes it will inspire the team to another good year. A regular schedule and official uniforms will help build the morale of future gym teams.

Golfers Anxious to Win Borough Title

The Midwood Golf Team, comprised of approximately twelve students, is preparing for a successful season this spring. Among the schools Midwood plays on the links are Madison, Lincoln, Erasmus, Grady, Fort Hamilton, Jefferson, Sheepshead Bay, New Utrecht, Boys High, and Brooklyn Tech.

Competitive high school golf is played according to the rules of "Match Play." The players winning the majority of holes out of nine are declared winners of their match, giving a point to their team. The team attaining three points or more wins the meet. Individual total scoring is disregarded. Thus, a player may win five holes, clinching the match, and yet have a higher score than his losing opponent.

The Golf Team's first match is slated for the end of April. The team practices at the Dyker Beach Golf Course twice a week. Their coach, Mr. Benjamin Taplitz, a science teacher at Kensington, believes the team will do well this year.

Last year, Midwood placed second in Brooklyn. The winners of each borough championship have an opportunity to compete for the city title.

Joe Elm

Kickoff

MARK COHEN

One of the essential elements of basketball, which captivates the fans, and adds to the enormous appeal of the game, is the tense and thrilling moments of close competition. The spectator appears to lose interest in the slow moving contests which close with a lopsided score, even if the results favor the team which the individual originally supported. Fans tend to align themselves with the underdog in such lopsided contests and tensely await the unexpected.

When an underdog emerges the victor over the perennial greats, it attains much deserved publicity as well as a large group of excited and loyal fans. These fans picture their squad as the proverbial Davids, destroying the bewildered Goliaths of the league.

This season the Midwood High School Basketball Team, frequently termed the "Cinderella Team, won a playoff berth in the City Championships held at Madison Square Garden. The Glenroaders, surprising the mass, upended the giants of division play and recorded an outstanding 8-4 league record.

The Midmen provided the spectator with the type of close competition which kept him off his seat, while tensely awaiting the impending results of the game. For example, the Glenroaders upended the much favored Boys High squad by a one point margin to clinch a place in the Garden playoffs, or when Paul Mayblum popped in the winning field goal in the Erasmus game with six seconds left to play. These are the types of games which generate strong school spirit and increase the respect and pride the student has in his school as a whole.

Spectators, also, tend to associate themselves with an individual whose participation in the games was a major contribution to the team's success. Tom Markey, the Middies 6'-5" All-City forward who averaged 21 points per game, fits the fans' description of a team hero. Captain Markey's reputation appeared to stem from the Midwood-Tech game in which he tallied an amazing 51 points to lead his team to victory.

* * *

Next year's squad will suffer greatly from the loss of top stars, Markey, Higgins and Elkins. However, it will retain ball hawking Gene Dressler and Midwood's vastly improved 6' 2" sopomore, Jim O'Brian.

The coming squad will most likely see Paul Mayblum and Jim O'Brian filling the corner position. 6' 7" Ivan Leshinsky will replace the Middies' top star Tom Markey at center, while fast moving Gene Dressler and Dave Teter will play the backcourt.

If the boys practice and develop their potential, next years' squad should obtain another winning record.

BASEBALL TEAM BEGINS SEASON

Under the guidance of Coach Barney Cohen the Midwood Baseball Team is preparing for its 1962 campaign. It has been hampered by bad weather and the poor condition of Midwood Field. These two factors, plus the departure of three key players, could make it difficult for this year's team to match the 1961 squads record of seven wins in ten starts.

Returning from that team are Captain Phil Simon, an outfielder, Dave Minkoff, a third baseman, Howard Newman, catcher and first baseman, Gene Dressler, 1961's rookie of the year, Joe Abel, outfielder, and pitchers James Meyers and Bob Castellano. The latter is the Mid-nine's only southpaw.

Other boys trying for starting berths include pitchers Larry Pinchuk, Anthony Staiano, John Backus, and Harold Olsen, catchers Don Chiapetta, Sal Manganaro, and Anthony Gianchette; infielders Paul Keenan, Joe Alonge, Mark Hanna, Sam Seideman, Ciro Vitiella, Howard Rosenblum, and Dave Waldman, and Roger Goldenthal, Alan Rosenstein, Dave Teter, Steven Paltrowitz and Stuart Taylor, outfielders.

The baseball team will wind up its preparations with eight exhibition contests between March 26 and April 6. Three days later, the squad will begin the ten-game P.S.A.L. season against Erasmus. Asked to comment on the team's possibilities, Mr. Cohen stated that it would be difficult to make an accurate prediction at such an early date. He added, "With the spark of the captains and other veterans, this team will be a hustling ball club."